3.25 National and State Resource Centres will be established with mandates for collection and dissemination of information undertaking research work, conducting surveys, implementing training and awareness generation programmes, etc. These Centres will link up with Womens' Studies Centres and other research and academic institutions through suitable information networking systems.

3.26 Institutional mechanisms which exist at the Central and State levels. to promote the advancement of women, will be strengthened. These will be through interventions as may be appropriate and will relate to. among others, provision of adequate resources, staff training and advocacy skills to effectively influence macro-policies, legislations. programmes etc., to achieve the empowerment of women.

[Translation]

Dispute Over Irrigation Projects

2908. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the disputes among various States over some irrigation projects and also of the differences among various Departments of the Union Government;

(b) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to monitor all the irrigation projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). There are disputes on different issues among participating States over some Irrigation Projects. The Union Government makes efforts to resolve these disputes through negotiations and meetings at different levels. There are no differences among various departments of the Union Government in respect of Irrigation projects.

(c) All on-going major irrigation projects and some selected medium irrigation projects are monitored by the Central Water Commission of the Union Ministry of Water Resources.

Passport Office in Jammu

2909. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a permanent passport office in Jammu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). A Passport Office was opened at Jammu in March, 1993 and has been functioning there since then. The possibility of opening an office in Srinagar will be examined soon. In the meantime, a Collection Centre is functioning in Srinagar.

Use of Water in Maharashtra

2910. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to make the Nar-Par West flowing rivers east flowing in Maharashtra as their waters goes waste unused in Arabian sea;

(b) whether the famine-prone areas will be benefited at large scale after making these rivers east-flowing by construction of big dams on these two rivers;

(c) the details of the action being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if no action is being taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No such proposal has been received in the Central Water Commission.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[English]

Conversion of State Highway No.11

2911. SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from Members of Parliament regarding conversion of State Highway No.11 from Rohtak to Luthiana via Jind and Sangrur as a National Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One representation in this regard has been received.

(c) Due to paucity of funds for the development of National Highway during the 8th Plan, it has not been possible to declare this road as a National Highway.

[Translation]

Inadequate Budget Allocations

2912. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether inadequate funds has been allotted for the Department of Defence in the Budget presented recently;

the basis of gender disaggregated